

Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SAM-01 SAJ-01 /066 W

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R 090811Z AUG 76

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1553

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 9331

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PINT CH

SUBJECT: PENG CHUNG APPEARS TO GREET BOTSWANA PRESIDENT KHAMA IN
KIANGSU

1. AFTER AN ABSENCE OF NEARLY THREE MONTHS, KIANGSU FIRST SECRETARY AND PROVINCIAL REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN PENG CHUNG HAS REAPPEARED AT A BANQUET GIVEN FOR BOTSWANA PRESIDENT KHAMA. TRAVELER REPORTS NOTE THAT PENG HAD BEEN UNDER FIRE FOR SOME TIME, AND THAT WALL POSTERS CRITICAL OF HIM HAD BEEN SEEN IN NANKING AS RECENTLY AS MID-JULY (PEKING 1317). EXCERPTS OF PENG'S TOAST TO KHAMA AT THE AUGUST 6 DINNER HELD UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE PROVINCIAL REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE WERE GIVEN ATTENTION IN AN NCNA ENGLISH ARTICLE. HOWEVER, REFERENCES TO THE CURRENT CAMPAIGN WERE NOTABLY ABSENT FROM PENG'S REMARKS.

2. PENG, SEVERELY CRITICISED DURING THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION, HAS REPORTEDLY BEEN NAMED AS A "CAPITALIST ROADER" AND A
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FOLLOWER OF TENG HSIAO-PING'S POLICIES IN THE POSTERS. THE

ATTACKS ON PENG APPEARED INTENSE, AND LED TO SPECULATION THAT HIS POSITION MIGHT HAVE BEEN WEAKENED CONSIDERABLY. HIS ROLE IN GREETING HKAMA, HOWEVER, REVEALS THAT HE REMAINS IN THE PROVINCES TOP LEADERSHIP SPOT, AND THAT HE IS PROBABLY NOT IN REAL TROUBLE.

3. ALSO APPEARING FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE MAY 18 OF THIS YEAR WAS YANG KUANG-LI, PROVINCIAL CCP SECRETARY AND REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE VICE CHAIRMAN. YANG HAD DROPPED FROM SIGHT IN 1967 AFTER ALLEGEDLY HAVING CALLED OUT 100,000 WORKERS TO SUPPRESS NANKING RED GUARDS, BUT REAPPEARED IN 1970 AS A REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE VICE CHAIRMAN. HE WAS IDENTIFIED AS A PARTY SECRETARY IN SEPTEMBER OF 1975. (HK10972, 1975 AND HK10813, 1975).
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